Delay in signing of memorandum of understanding by ONGC

*393. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission has failed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Government for the year 1991-92;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that delay in signing the MOU has defeated its purpose as considerable part of the current financial year has lapsed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government and ONGC is yet to be signed as it is still under finalisation. The functioning of the ONGC has not been affected on this account.

Survey of HTV infection in Manipur

*394. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report of survey of HIV infection in Manipur published in the Health for Millions, Vol. XVII, No. 4, August, 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith the number of people surveyed and the number of people found seropositive?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes Sir. Government is aware about the report published in "Health for Millions"—August, 1991.

(b) The first case of HIV (Human Immuno Deficiency Virus which transmits AIDS) infection was detected in February, 1990. As of November, 1991, 7,607 persons practising "at risk" behaviours were screened and 1,348 were found to have HIV infection. Results of surveillance work carried out in Manipur indicate that the major mode of transmission is through intra venous drug use.

Pilferage of coal from the Railway wagons

*395. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of pilferage of coal from the Railway Wagons have been growing in Asansol Division of Eastern Railway;

(b) whether incidents of looting of coal from Railway Wagons by miscreants after halting the trains at convenient locations in connivence with GRP and Railway employees as well as transportation of pilfered coal by various Mail and Passenger trains passing through this Division have also been received; if so, teh details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to stop such illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Cases of women, children and man suspected to be engaged in pilfering coal from various collieries situated in Asansol Division and carrying the pilferage ETAOI NSHRDLU MMM the pilfered coal by passenger trains have come to notice.

(c) Frequent raids are conducted by RPF. Persons who are involved in carrying coal are arrested by RPF and efforts are made to stop this menace with the assistance of GRP and local police.

Ayurvedic Tonic

*396. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several manufacturers are marketing unscientific preparations in the name of Ayurvedic Tonics to escape scrutiny; and